

EAGER AVENUE GRACE CHURCH

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:21

Worship Services

Sunday, February 11, 2024

10 am: "Christ's Kingdom Has Come" | Matthew 12:22-30
Matthew Series | Lesson 45
Bill Parker

11 am: "The Seventh Trumpet"
Revelation 11:15-19
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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Christ Apart From Doctrine?

Much is said in regard to preaching Christ, and not doctrine. But how is it possible to preach Christ apart from doctrine? Christ is not an abstraction, but a living, personal being. If, then, we preach Him, we must preach His divinity, His humanity, and His mediatorship between God and man. If we preach what He has done, we must declare His humiliation, His death, and the atonement He has therein made for sin. If we preach Him as He is, we must proclaim His enthronement in heaven, His intercession with the Father, and His Headship of the church, with all the laws and ordinances He has instituted for it. And if we preach Him as He shall be, we must affirm the final triumph of His Gospel, His second coming, the resurrection and the judgment, and the glory to which He will raise His people with Himself. It is not possible to preach Christ apart from doctrine; for His incarnation and vicarious death presuppose the fall and depravity and guilt of men, and the need of regeneration, justification, and sanctification; and His resurrection and glorification equally involve the resurrection and glorification of the church. **ALL THE DOCTRINES OF SCRIPTURE THUS CENTER IN CHRIST, and WE PREACH HIM ONLY AS WE PREACH THEM.**

—Hezekiah Hervey

How Were Old Testament People Saved?

How did Old Testament believers like Abraham, Noah, Moses, David and Daniel become saved? Just the same as those of us in the New Testament are. By the sin atoning blood and imputed righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is true that they did not know God under the name Jesus, but they did know that God would be their redeemer. They trusted in and looked forward to the coming of Messiah. Job said, ***“I know that my redeemer liveth” (Job 19:25). And Jesus told the Jews, “Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day: and he saw it, and was glad” (John 8:56).*** Also, Isaiah said, ***“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation” (Isaiah 12:2).*** So, whereas Old Testament believers were saved by trusting that God would come to bring them salvation, we are saved by believing that the Lord Jesus did come to redeem us by dying for our sins. —Copied

“I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.” (Isaiah 61:10)

In the Bible, the righteousness of Christ charged or imputed to God’s people for their justification is often described in a metaphor (comparative symbol) of wearing a garment or a coat. This metaphor was first established in ***Genesis 3:21*** when God, showing Adam and Eve the futility of covering their sinfulness with fig-leaf aprons (a symbol of man’s efforts to establish his own righteousness by his works), slew an animal and made them ***“coats of skins, and clothed them.”*** The Lord God revealed to Adam and Eve through this metaphor the Gospel truths of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer of His chosen people. He revealed how that if sins were to be put away and forgiven, and if righteousness was to be established, a suitable, God-appointed, willing, and able substitute had to die in their place. All for whom Christ, the Lamb of God, was slain have been redeemed by His blood and are clothed in His righteousness. How, then, can we know if His righteousness has been imputed to us, or, metaphorically, how can we know if we wear Christ’s robe of righteousness? We can know this only as God brings us by the power of the Holy Spirit to believe in Christ as our righteousness – ***“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth” (Rom. 10:4).*** —Pastor Bill Parker

Justification

God the Father contrived the scheme and method of justification; it would have been a puzzling question to angels and men, had not He resolved it – “How should man,” sinful man, “be just with God?”

But God, in His infinite wisdom, “found a ransom,” a Ransomer, a Redeemer of His people, to bring in everlasting righteousness for them, and thereby acquit and discharge them, and “deliver them from going down to the pit” of ruin and destruction. ***“God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself.”*** God was with Him, forming the scheme of their peace and reconciliation, of their redemption, justification, and salvation. ***“Not imputing their trespasses,” but the righteousness of His Son to them (Job 9:2; 33:24; 2 Corinthians 5:19).*** —John Gill

“But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.” (Rom. 6:17-18)

Prayer Requests

Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Akemi Okada, Sue Parker, Melissa Riggins, Todd Wiley, Banks Margeson, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Birthdays

Neil Jackson – Feb. 12th | Andrea Pannell – Feb. 15th | Tony Jones – Feb. 16th
Jarrett McKenzie – Feb. 16th | Sylvia Casey – Feb. 17th

Hymns

February 11th services

-I Love to Tell the Story - 431

-Glory to His Name - 489

Call to Worship

(Tune – Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus – p. 378)

**I see the blessed Savior uplifted on the tree;
The law held Him its captive that sinners might go free.
His blood poured out in mercy — It does for sin atone;
I hear Him cry, “It’s finished!” — The work is fully done.**

**I see the mighty victor arising from the grave;
Death, Hell, and Satan vanquished for those He came to save!
Christ took His place in Heaven upon the throne above;
To Him all pow’r is given to save the souls He loves.**

**I trust you, Jesus, Savior; I bow before your throne;
By sov’rign mercy save me, and take me for your own!
Your blood, my only cleansing — Your righteousness, my robe;
You are my only refuge — I have no other hope.**